(b) how much of its objectives are achieved, alongwith the highlights of its achievements and performance;

(c) how does it compare with other similar organizations in advanced countries; and

(d) what are the ills and evils that are preventing the growth and development of this Institute?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The vision and mission of National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) is targeted towards development of world class technologies and their applications for sustainable utilization of ocean resources by implementing projects including ocean science and technology development for islands for the welfare of coastal population, on mission mode.

(b) The targeted objectives set forth during Tenth Plan in the area of energy and freshwater from sea. deep sea mining, coastal and environmental engineering, marine instrumentation and ocean observation systems and ocean science and technology for islands were accomplished. The highlights of the major accomplishments are (i) the commissioning of 1 lakh litre per day desalination plant in Kavaratti, Lakshadweep; (ii) demonstration of 1 million liter per day capacity barge based offshore plant off Chennai; (iii) design, development and demonstration of an underwater crawler with a riser up to a depth of 450 m off Goa; (iv) development of Remotely Operated Unmanned Submersible (ROSUB-6000) tested at a water depth of 250 m(now tested up to a depth of 1100 m); (v) design, development and demonstration of deep sea soil tester at a depth of 5200m; (vi) development of state of the art acoustic tide gauge and setting up of Acoustic test facilities; and (vii) establishment of observational network for tsunami warning system in the fault zone and the tide gauges.

(c) The advanced countries like Japan, USA, Russia, Germany, France etc. develop their underwater technologies by institutions catering to their specific needs. There is no umbrella institute like NIOT which deals with the entire domain of underwater technology development both for shallow water and deep water to meet the countries requirements. The question of comparison, therefore, does not arise.

(d) The institute has made significant achievements and shown tangible results in various identified projects on mission mode from time to time. The design, development, demonstration of underwater technologies (shallow and deeper waters) requires longer time and experienced manpower. As a new growing institute, the technical manpower are getting trained through various collaborative projects with technology transfer. There are no such ills and evils that are preventing the growth and development of this Institute at this stage.

Installation of Doppler Weather Radars for monitoring cloud burst

1751. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Doppler Weather Radar are being used by India Meteorological Department (IMD) for monitoring cloud burst;

(b) if so, the name of places where these Doppler Weather Radars have been installed so far;

(c) whether it is also a fact that IMD is considering to install a Doppler Weather Radar in Himachal Pradesh where a huge loss to life and property is caused every year due to cloud burst; and

(d) if so, the time limit stipulated by Government to install these Doppler Weather Radar in the State?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Doppler Weather Radar (DWR) can be used for monitoring cloud burst. However, IMD has so far not installed DWR in the hilly regions for this purpose. Currently DWRs are commissioned over the east coast of India for monitoring the tropical cyclones over the Bay of Bengal.

(b) DWRs are installed at Chennai, Machilipatnam, Visakhapatnam and Kolkata by IMD for monitoring of tropical cyclones.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. IMD proposes to install a DWR in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh during the Eleventh Five Year Plan for monitoring of cloud bursts.

National Cyclone Disaster Management system in Orissa

1752. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up a National Cyclone Disaster Management Institute in coastal States in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof, *inter-alia* indicating the time-frame within which it would be set up on the Orissa coast;

(c) whether it is proposed to set up under PPP mode; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) Establishment of a National Cyclone Disaster Management Institute has been recommended in the National Guidelines on Management of Cyclones, formulated by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). However, no proposal on the subject has yet been formulated by NDMA.

24 hour channel for weather forecast

1753. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) proposes to launch a 24 hour TV channel to provide weather updates;